

**CITY OF GAHANNA
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – April 2, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Eric Miller called the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board to order on Wednesday, April 2, 2008 at 7:05 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Diane Cantrell
Cynthia Franzmann
Windy McKenna
Luke Messinger
Eric Miller
Laurel Naegele
Vincent Tremante – arrived at 7:11pm

In attendance from City was Tony Collins, Director and Troy Euton, Deputy Director, Department of Parks & Recreation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Cantrell made a **MOTION** to approve the February 6, 2008 and March 5, 2008 meeting minutes; seconded by Messinger. **On roll call vote:** McKenna, Yes, Messinger, Yes, Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes, Cantrell, Yes and Franzmann, Yes. **The motion carried 6-0.**

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Add Creekside Opening Weekend to new business
Removal of Ordinance 1109.08 from old business

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS AMENDED:

McKenna made a **MOTION** to approve the April 2, 2008 agenda; seconded by Naegele. **On roll call vote:** Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes, Cantrell, Yes, Franzmann, Yes, McKenna, Yes and Messinger, Yes. **The motion carried 6 – 0.**

VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Tara Stubbs-Figurski, Reporter with Rocky Fork Enterprise Newspaper

OLD BUSINESS:

Rules of Operation

The Rules of Operation were reviewed; typos to be corrected.

Cantrell made a **MOTION** to approve the Rules of Operation as corrected; seconded by Franzmann. **On roll call vote:** Naegele, Yes, Cantrell, Yes, Franzmann, Yes, McKenna, Yes, Messinger, Yes and Miller, Yes. **The motion carried 6 – 0.**

Parks & Recreation Foundation

Collins discussed the drafts for the Giving Program and the By-Laws of the Foundation. Collins stated when discussions first began regarding the foundation the goal was to get a group of citizens together to create a program that “enhances and benefits the programs and offerings of

the department”; through scholarships for youth, seniors, facility or capital improvements such as park benches, trees or naming rights for a major park capital project.

Collins stated the department requested a supplemental appropriation of \$900 to create the Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation to be approved by City Council. Collins is requesting a formal recommendation from the Board to give to Council.

Tremante made a **MOTION** for a Board recommendation to City Council to establish the Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation; seconded by Messinger. **On roll call vote:** Cantrell, Yes, Franzmann, Yes, McKenna, Yes, Messinger, Yes, Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes and Tremante, Yes. **The motion carried 7 – 0.**

Collins stated the Parks & Recreation Board needs to recommend three At-Large Parks & Recreation Foundation Board members. Collins recommended the Board consider Marlene Eader, Tom Schneider and Frank Treadway. Collins stated all three are previous Parks Board Members and two live in Gahanna and one has a business in Gahanna.

Cantrell made a **MOTION** to recommend asking Marlene Eader, Tom Schneider and Frank Treadway to serve on the Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation Board; seconded by Naegele. **On roll call vote:** Franzmann, Yes, McKenna, Yes, Messinger, Yes, Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes, Tremante, Yes and Cantrell, Yes. **The motion carried 7 – 0.**

Gahanna Swim Club

Collins stated the recommendation to purchase the Gahanna Swim Club was presented to City Council. Vinnie Tremante spoke on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Board and Skip Clegg spoke on behalf of the Gahanna Swim Club Board. Council requested additional time to discuss and receive additional details on the financials.

NEW BUSINESS:

Creekside Opening Weekend

Collins shared that Creekside opening will be May 1 – 4, 2008. Saturday, May 3, 2008 will be the Creekside Gala at Creekside Conference & Event Center benefiting an organization. It was decided that this year’s event will benefit the Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation. The Creekside Gala will be the kick-off for the Foundation. The event will be hosted by the Foundation with a short program and informational stations around the room featuring the giving program. The food, drinks and location are being donated by the Stonehenge Company and Gahanna Creekside Investments. The ticket price will be an initial contribution to the Foundation.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS

None

DIRECTORS REPORT

Collins shared that the Parks Division is working on opening the Golf Course; they are behind due to the third high water event on the course. Parks have pruned more than 200 trees. The Facilities Division renovated the Clubhouse. The Recreation Division, in partnership with the Gahanna Historical Society, held 1908 Days; over 300 people attended with coverage from the newspapers and Channel 4 News.

Collins said that the department has formed a partnership with the 2008 Parade of Homes. Each

home will feature an herb garden of some type. We facilitated a partnership with Franklin County Soil & Water and the builder of the green home which will feature a rain garden and develop native plant landscaping.

The department is working with the Columbus Regional Airport Authority (CRAA) and the FOP, trying to partner with them to allow the CRAA to mitigate a wetland on the FOP property.

Collins invited the Board to attend the OPRA Advocacy Day on April 23rd at the State House; the message is about renewing the Clean Ohio program.

Hannah Park construction is underway. The Mill Race construction will begin soon. The Make A Wish Foundation will hold their 2008 fundraising walk at Creekside on August 16th.

Collins stated the May 7, 2008 board meeting will be at the Gahanna Municipal Golf Course Clubhouse at 6 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bikeway Advisory Committee (BAC)

Naegele shared that the committee is focusing on inviting residents to an Open House to share information on the Big Walnut Trail construction. The meeting will be at the Clubhouse on May 7, 2008 at 7 pm. Representatives from Metro Parks, Floyd Browne and MORPC will be in attendance to help answer any question; there will be informational tables set up around the room.

Community Improvement Corporation (C.I.C.)

Cantrell stated the CIC meeting is on April 8th and the CVB meeting is April 3, 2008.

Dog Park Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Tremante shared that the Committee is trying to schedule a meeting with NRAC to discuss dog access along Big Walnut Creek. There was some discussion among the board members; Cantrell said that the DPAC might understand the environmental side of the issue if they would have the opportunity to get in the creek to do some seining for critters, and show them that the issue is not just about disturbing the rocks.

Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC)

Tremante stated the March inventory at McCorkle Park was rescheduled due to the weather. The group will meet on April 12th at McCorkle Park. Each park will be moved to the following month due to March being rescheduled.

Tremante would like to see an early spring program at Gahanna Woods that will take a look at the salamanders, amphibians and other things that are out as soon as the temperature breaks. Gahanna Woods is a great resource that we should have programming available. Natural Resource Awareness Week is April 19 – 26, 2008. Tremante encouraged all Board members to participate. Tremante will be working at Friendship Park removing evasive species on Saturday, April 20th if anyone wants to join him.

Veterans Memorial Committee

Nothing at this time

POLL MEMBERS FOR COMMENT:

McKenna stated Dr. Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent of Gahanna Schools announced her retirement. Dr. Hamilton has been with the schools for 12 years. The school system is buying 20 new school buses.

Miller reminded Board members that the Service to the Community Award nominations are due April 30, 2008 and the Board will review the nominations and vote at the May 7, 2008 meeting. Miller would like to include on the May agenda under New Business Community Center. The Master Plan identified a need for a community center.

Tremante shared that he attended 1908 Days and enjoyed the event and liked the plaques all around that gave information on events from 1908.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Parks & Recreation Board at this time, Messinger made a **MOTION** to adjourn.

The Parks & Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Crossmock, Administrative Assistant

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2008

Eric Miller, Chair